

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance ~~characterized by having a depressurization step of~~ comprising:

impregnating a liquid-holdable material substance that can be impregnated with a liquid having vaporizability or a fluid in a super-critical state to an inside thereof with the liquid having vaporizability or the fluid in the super-critical state, and reducing a pressure inside a processing vessel while the liquid-holdable material substance is charged in the vessel for the liquid or the fluid in the super-critical state that has penetrated to the inside of the liquid-holdable material substance to expand by vaporization, thereby causing the liquid-holdable material substance to expand in a porous manner or grinding the liquid-holdable material substance that has been processed into a porous state using an expanding force.

2. (currently amended) A method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance ~~characterized by having~~ comprising:

~~a step of~~ charging a liquid-holdable material substance that can be impregnated with a liquid having vaporizability or a fluid in a super-critical state to an inside thereof in a processing vessel;

~~a penetration step of~~ impregnating the liquid-holdable material substance with the liquid having vaporizability or the fluid in the super-critical state to the inside thereof; and

~~a depressurization step of~~ reducing a pressure inside the vessel for the liquid or the fluid in the super-critical state having penetrated to the inside of the liquid-holdable material substance to expand by vaporization, thereby causing the liquid-holdable material

substance to expand in a porous manner or grinding the liquid-holdable material substance that has been processed into a porous state using an expanding force.

3. (original) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 2, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is heated when the penetration step is performed.

4. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to ~~any of Claims 1 through~~ Claim 3, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is vibrated when the depressurization step is performed.

5. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to ~~any of Claims 2 through~~ Claim 4, wherein:

an inside of the vessel is under pressure when the penetration step is performed.

6. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 5, wherein:

~~the penetration step and the depressurization step~~ impregnating of the liquid-holdable material substance and the reducing of pressure are performed repetitively several times.

7. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to ~~any of Claims 1 through~~ Claim 6, wherein:

~~after the penetration step and the depressurization step~~ impregnating of the liquid-holdable material substance and the reducing of pressure are performed, ~~a post-~~

~~processing penetration step is performed to impregnate~~ impregnating the liquid-holdable material substance is performed with a post-processing fluid by placing an inside of the vessel under pressure in applying post-processing to the liquid-holdable material substance.

8. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 7, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is heated at the time of ~~the post-processing penetration step~~ impregnating the liquid-holdable material substance with a post-processing fluid, and the post-processing fluid is solidified later by ~~performing a cooling step of~~ cooling the liquid-holdable material substance after the ~~post-processing penetration step~~ impregnating of the liquid-holdable material substance with a post-processing fluid ends, and ~~a post-processing depressurization step of~~ reducing a pressure inside the vessel is performed after the ~~cooling step of the liquid-holdable material substance~~.

9. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to ~~any of Claims 1 through 8~~, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is coffee beans.

10. (currently amended) A processor ~~that performs the method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to any of Claims 1 through 9~~, characterized by ~~including~~ comprising:

~~a vessel having a space within; and~~ for containing a liquid-holdable material substance that can be impregnated with a liquid having vaporizability or a fluid in a super-critical state to an inside thereof, the liquid-holdable material substance being impregnated

with the liquid having vaporizability or the fluid in the super-critical state to the inside thereof; and

a pressure adjusting portion that performs at least depressurization by adjusting an inside of the vessel for the liquid or the fluid in the super-critical state having penetrated to the inside of the liquid-holdable material substance to expand by vaporization.

11. (currently amended) The processor according to Claim 10, including:

a temperature adjusting portion that performs at least one of heating and cooling the inside of the vessel.

12. (new) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 1, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is vibrated when the depressurization step is performed.

13. (new) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 2, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is vibrated when the depressurization step is performed.

14. (new) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 1, wherein:

after the impregnating of the liquid-holdable material substance and the reducing of pressure are performed, impregnating the liquid-holdable material substance is performed with a post-processing fluid by placing an inside of the vessel under pressure in applying post-processing to the liquid-holdable material substance.

15. (new) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 2, wherein:

after the impregnating of the liquid-holdable material substance and the reducing of pressure are performed, impregnating the liquid-holdable material substance is performed with a post-processing fluid by placing an inside of the vessel under pressure in applying post-processing to the liquid-holdable material substance.

16. (new) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 2, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is coffee beans.